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# AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

LEGAL, ECONOMIC, AND ORGANIZATION INFORMATION COLLECTED BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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July 30, 1923.

Vol. I, No. 11.

## COTTON ASSOCIATION WINS IN TEXAS SUPREME COURT

In the case of the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association v. Stovall, recently decided by the Supreme Court of Texas, it appeared that the association brought suit against the defendant, a member of the association, on its marketing contract with him to restrain the defendant from disposing of his cotton outside of the association and to compel him to perform the contract specifically by delivering his cotton to the association. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas, in an opinion delivered June 30, 1923, sustained the contentions of the association.

When the case first came to trial, the trial court refused to enjoin the defendant and to grant a decree requiring specific performance of the contract. The association then appealed to the Texas Court of Civil Appeals, which court affirmed the judgment of the trial court. 246 S. W., 1109.

In the Court of Civil Appeals the association appears to have based its case squarely on the proposition that the contract was contract of purchase and sale. In the opinion of this court it is said:

Appellant's theory seems to rest exclusively on the idea that the contract is a contract of purchase and sale as distinguished from a contract of agency.

This court reached the conclusion that the contract, although stating that the association bought and that the grower sold the cotton, was not, in fact, a contract of purchase and sale, for the reason that in its opinion the contract did not contain the elements necessary for such an instrument, and for this reason affirmed the judgment of the trial court. Under the contract the association was authorized to pool the cotton and it accounted to the member after the cotton had been sold and disposed of by it.

In view of the decision of the Court of Civil Appeals the association appealed the case to the Supreme Court of the State, which court held that the association was entitled to an injunction and also to a decree requiring the defendant to perform his contract specifically. The statute of Texas, under which this association was formed, expressly provided that an association organized thereunder was entitled to an injunction to restrain a member from breaching his contract with it and also to the remedy of specific performance for the

purpose of requiring him to perform the contract without reference to whether the contract involved was an agency contract or one of purchase and sale. In other words, the right of an association to the remedies just referred to under the statute was in no way dependent upon the purchase of the commodity involved. The Supreme Court of Texas, in discussing whether the contract of the association was in fact one of purchase and sale, said in part:

We do not find it necessary to determine whether this contract was one of ordinary sale and purchase or an agency contract. The fact that the association is created primarily for cooperative purposes, and not for profit, lends color to the theory that it is an agency contract. But when the statute is examined and the contract analyzed, it is quite plain that in its essential aspects the contract is not one of agency as that term is ordinarily understood. The rule is that the primary test as to the character of a contract is the intention of the parties. 23 R. C. L., p. 1216, Section 34. .... The fact that the cotton is to be placed in a pool with the cotton of other growers, and the grower paid from the net proceeds of the pool, instead of from the net proceeds of his own cotton, clearly shows that the purpose was to pass title to the association. It is true that the grower at all times has a beneficial interest in the net proceeds of this pool, but in so far as the legal title to the cotton is concerned, and his dominion over it, it is clear that passes from him. What remedies, if any, the grower might have, as against the cotton, in the event of a breach of the contract of the association, it is unnecessary to determine. It is sufficient to say that, in view of the statute, and the express language of the agreement declaring the instrument a contract of sale and purchase, we must regard it as such a contract in so far as the parties here are concerned.

..... But irrespective of the classification which may be given the contract, since the statute expressly gives the association remedies in equity to enforce the performance of contracts of this character, it is entitled to these remedies where the facts warrant.

Contracts substantially like the one involved in this case have been passed upon by the supreme courts in a number of the States. As a rule the association has obtained an injunction to restrain the member from violating his contract and in a number of instances has also obtained a decree requiring the member to perform his contract specifically. The question of the exact character of the contract involved has rarely been dealt with. However, the Supreme Court of Oregon, in the case of the Oregon Growers' Cooperative Association v. Lentz, 212 Pac., 811, in which a contract similar to that involved in this case was under discussion, and which stated that the association bought and the member sold, said:

The contract itself is an agency contract and appoints plaintiff as agent of the defendant August Lentz to market his product for his benefit, and without profit to the association.

In the Oregon case, the Supreme Court of that State, like the Supreme Court of Texas in the instant case held that the association was entitled to an injunction and also to a decree requiring the defendant to perform his contract specifically.

L. S. Hulbert.

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#### OKLAHOMA COTTON ASSOCIATION'S BUSINESS SUMMARIZED

Under the heading "General Information for Members" the Oklahoma Cotton Grower, of July 10, publishes a summary of the business of the Oklahoma Cotton Growers' Association for the 1922-23 season, from which the following items are selected:

Total pool cotton received . . . . .	65,868 bales
Average weight per bale . . . . .	506 pounds
Average price per pound received . . . . .	25.61 cents
Average price per pound paid members . . . . .	24.66 cents
Average reserve per bale still due . . . . .	1.28 dollars
Average gross cost per bale handling charges . . . . .	1.10 dollars
Average gross cost per bale operating expense . . . . .	3.82 dollars

The annual report states that members of the association received over \$20 per bale more than growers who sold outside of the association.

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#### NEBRASKA CREAMERY REPORTS SUCCESSFUL YEAR

A net profit of \$32,270 is shown by the annual report of the Farmers' Equity Cooperative Creamery Association, Orleans, Nebr., for the year ending November 30, 1922. From this a patronage dividend of 2-1/4 cents on each pound of butter fat was declared, amounting to nearly \$25,000. The association was organized in 1916 and has 52 cream stations and about 6,000 members. Every patron is counted as a stockholder and his patronage dividend is credited on his stock until it is fully paid up. However, the majority of the stock is held by local Equity Union exchanges and cream stations. Of the \$56,394 paid-in capital stock only about \$10,000 has been paid in cash. The remainder has been built up out of the business.

At the close of the fiscal year the net worth of the association was \$96,425.39.



RECEIVER OF ASSOCIATION SUES ON MEMBERS' NOTES

In the case of Runciman v. Brown, recently decided by the Supreme Court of Michigan, 193 N. W. 880, the receiver of the McCords Cooperative Association brought suit against thirty-four members of the association on notes for \$100 each given by them payable to the order of the association.

This association was incorporated for the purpose of dealing in farm produce, and owing to its insolvency a receiver was appointed to wind up its business. On taking charge of its affairs he found a large number of promissory notes of the character described above. Thirty-four of the members of the association refused to pay their notes and the receiver instituted suit against them to compel payment. In this particular case at an appropriate time the attorney for twenty-two of the members moved to dismiss the suit on the ground that the members were not liable on the notes. The notes were in the following form:

P. O., McCords, Michigan, \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_.

On demand for value received I promise to pay to the order of the McCords Cooperative Association one hundred dollars (\$100.00) at the City State Bank of Lowell, Michigan, without interest until after demand and then with interest at the rate of seven per cent. per annum from date of demand until paid.

This note is given to be used as collateral security only and may be indorsed over to any bank or person making any loan to the said McCords Cooperative Association, of which association I am a stockholder, and the making of any such loan shall be sufficient consideration for my making this note. At any time any bank or person, who having made a loan to the said McCords Cooperative Association and holding this note as collateral security, may deem themselves insecure on any such loan they may make demand on this note and enforce collection.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Demand made \_\_\_\_\_.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_.

The Trial Court overruled the motion to dismiss the suit and an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of Michigan, which Court held that the receiver could not recover on the notes inasmuch as the conditions set forth in the agreement attached to them were not present in this case. The notes were given for the purpose of being used as collateral security and inasmuch as they had not been used for this purpose the members were held not to be liable on them.

The following quotation from the opinion of the court shows the basis for the holding in this matter:

Counsel for defendants insists that these notes were given as accommodation notes, that they were never used by the association, and, therefore, no liability attaches.

Plaintiff's theory is that these notes were used to give credit to the association, and in a way stood in the place of capital stock, and that the members of the association had a common purpose, and, therefore, the notes are holding for the debts of the association. These are simply theories which are not important in this suit. This suit was begun upon certain express contracts, and the terms of these contracts must control. The agreement which is attached to the notes provides: (a) That the notes shall be used only for collateral security. (b) That they might be indorsed to any person or bank, making a loan to the association. (c) That to be effective they must be indorsed to creditors of the association. (d) That any one holding the note as collateral security could enforce the collection thereof.

It is our understanding that none of these conditions were present with these notes. They had not been indorsed to any creditor as collateral security. They were, in fact, never used as collateral security, and a fair inference is that no recovery could be had unless indorsed to a third party.

Under these circumstances, it is very clear to us that the notes never passed into the hands of a third party, and, if they did not, no recovery could be had upon them.

L. S. Hulbert.

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#### WASHINGTON COURT GRANTS DECREE OF SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE

The Superior Court of Walla Walla County, Washington, has recently decided the case of the Washington Wheat Growers' Association against T. F. Dice and C. E. Dice, in favor of the association. The association recovered a judgment against the defendants for \$800, and they were ordered to perform specifically their contracts with the association during the remaining years that such contracts are in force, namely, 1923 to 1925, and with reference to C. E. Dice, 1923 to 1926.

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#### JIM FALLS BUTTER AND CHEESE COMPANY MAKES REPORT

A total of 684,800 pounds of butter fat was received in 1922 by the Jim Falls Cooperative Butter and Cheese Co., Jim Falls, Wis., for which the company paid to patrons the sum of \$273,320, an average of 39.91 cents a pound. Cost of making for the year was 2.31 cents per pound. Sales of butter during 1922 amounted to \$292,104, and sales of buttermilk brought in an additional \$1,109. A dividend of 3% was paid on capital stock in 1922, as compared with 8% in 1921, and 5% in 1913 and in 1914.

U. S. GRAIN GROWERS PREPARING TO SELL GRAIN

At a meeting of the presidents and secretaries of the Mid-West farm bureaus, held in Chicago, July 3, plans were approved for the functioning of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., as a marketing organization. The board of directors of the Grain Growers submitted a memorandum which included a statement as to the development and present status of the corporation, and suggested a plan for marketing.

The amount of indebtedness at the present time, including accrued interest on note obligations, was reported as \$350,000. Of this amount approximately \$86,000 is due solicitors; about \$42,000 is due old directors and others; and about \$191,000, with about \$30,000 in accrued interest, is due note creditors, most of whom are farm bureaus and farm bureau members.

The plan of procedure offered proposes the funding of the debts, the raising of from \$20,000 to \$100,000 of new capital, and the marketing of grain through the firm of Hales and Hunter, which firm has a seat on the Chicago Board of Trade, and also is friendly to the co-operative movement. The board of directors of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., submitted information indicating that the proposed method of selling was acceptable to the Chicago Board of Trade and to the Secretary of Agriculture. It is believed that the corporation will have an average of 25 cars of grain a day to sell.

It was suggested that \$20,000 be made available to the directors to use in starting the program of grain marketing and that such advances as might be made be secured by bonds or debentures of the same class as contemplated to be issued to the creditors of the corporation whose claims are to be funded.

The Mid-West farm bureau presidents and secretaries passed a resolution approving the proposed plan for selling grain pending the development by the American Farm Bureau Federation of a national grain-marketing policy based on the organization of producers by States, with long-term contracts, and with provisions for pooling by grades on basis of milling value, corn to be dealt with separately.

A resolution was also adopted requesting the Mid-West State farm bureau federations to appropriate \$20,000 for the use of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., in carrying out the plan submitted.

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SECOND DISTRIBUTION MADE BY DARK TOBACCO GROWERS

Approximately \$700,000 was distributed June 29 by the Dark Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association, Hopkinsville, Ky., to the 7,000 growers in the Henderson Stemming district. This was the second payment in this district and amounted to about 70% of the first advance.

A distribution of \$14,500,000 to the growers of dark-fired tobacco is planned for July 27. This will be the second payment and will be between 70% and 80% of the first distribution.



FOURTEEN MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF LIVE STOCK SOLD BY OHIO PRODUCERS

A statistical analysis of the operations of the county live-stock shipping companies of Ohio during the year ending March 31, 1923, has been issued by the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation in cooperation with the Ohio Live Stock Shippers' Association. A comparison of this statement with a similar statement for the preceding year shows that the total number of floors of stock shipped by the county association during the past year was 10,322, as against 6,883 floors the previous year; the number of individual shipments was 86,324 in 1922-23, and 46,059 in 1921-22; and the net market values were \$14,004,060 and \$8,272,599. The following table shows the number of animals marketed:

	Hogs	Cattle	Calves	Sheep
1921-22	382,450	21,556	22,853	99,940
1922-23	607,359	24,053	48,159	134,277

Loss caused by the crippling and killing of stock in transit for the former year varied from .4¢ to 7.2¢ per cwt., and the second year from .5¢ to 5.8¢. The expense of marketing ranged in 1922 from 44.1¢ to 89¢ in the different counties, with an average of about 70¢; and in 1923 from 35.1¢ to \$1.08, with an average of 67.4¢. The highest figure, \$1.08, was from a county which made but one shipment.

Destinations of the shipments for the two years are shown below:

Destination	Number of Floors Shipped	
	1922	1923
Cleveland	2,910	5,195
Pittsburgh	2,632	3,822
Buffalo	478	458
Cincinnati	416	581
Toledo	215	108
Other Points	232	158
Total	6,883	10,322

A proposed plan has been worked out by the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation for a live-stock marketing contract, whereby the individual producer will contract with his county association for the marketing of all live stock sold for slaughter, the county association will contract with the State association for all such stock, and the State association will contract with Producers' Commission Associations or with packers for handling sales. All settlements for shipments will be made direct to the county associations. The contracts will be for three years with no withdrawal periods. Liquidated damages for breach of contract are placed at 50¢ per cwt.

Only stock for slaughter will come under the terms of this contract; all dairy stock and all stock sold for feeding or for breeding purposes will be excluded.

CANADIAN WOOL SOLD COOPERATIVELY

More than 19,500,000 pounds of fleece wool has been handled by the Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers' Limited, Toronto, Can., since its organization in 1918. This association is a growers' selling agency, formed to serve both local wool growers' associations and individual wool producers. Its services are open to all persons in Canada engaged in wool growing. Patrons are encouraged to become members but shareholders and non-shareholder patrons are treated exactly alike. The amount of paid-up capital stock is \$82,023, on which an 8% dividend was paid March 31, 1923.

Sales of wool for the year ending February 28, 1923, amounted to \$704,350; sales of sacks and bales brought in a net profit of \$1,334; twine, \$875; stockmen's supplies, \$2,259; and manufactured woolens, \$2,365. Salaries, rent, office expenses, advertising and travel amounted to \$44,725; warehouse wages and expenses, cartage, insurance and taxes, came to \$25,330; interest, discount and exchange, to \$1,317; annual meeting, \$3,238; and depreciation, \$3,741, making a total of \$83,405.

Wools are sold for grower's account, and the proceeds remitted less the estimated handling costs. The management believes that growers who used the services of their local associations and of the Canadian Cooperative during 1922 made a net gain of five cents a pound for wool shipped this way. Branch offices are maintained at Regina, Sask., and Lennoxville, Que.

The following amounts have been rebated to the local associations in the several years:

1913 . . . . .	\$27,900
1919 . . . . .	11,700
1920 . . . . .	2,600
1921 . . . . .	4,000

In the year 1920 and again in 1921 the association marketed over 4,000,000 pounds of wool. This figure, which is practically one-third of the Canadian wool clip, was used at the beginning of the 1922 season in making an estimate for a handling charge, this charge being set at 2-1/4 cents per pound. Receipts of wool in 1922 amounting to only 3,168,722 pounds, the association was faced with a deficit, and also being unable to fill orders it was obliged to purchase wools. By this means the association was enabled to finish the year without increasing the handling charge.

Manufactured woolens, made in Canada and mostly from Canadian wool, are handled. A catalogue was issued in 1922 showing the lines handled and in the three offices the sales reached over \$50,000, an increase of nearly 100% over the sales of 1921.

All wool received is graded by thoroughly qualified graders, supplied by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, and is sold by grades. The Central Warehouse at Weston, Ont., has a capacity of 4,000,000 pounds.

NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE PAYS ANNUAL DIVIDENDS

Sale of potatoes direct from the field to the best market is the chief business of the Monmouth County Farmers' Exchange, Freehold, N. J., which carried on a business amounting to \$1,250,000 during 1921. This exchange was organized in July, 1908, with 500 members and a paid-in capital stock of \$7,000. At that time potatoes were shipped from nine stations and the business amounted to \$54,414. In 1916 the membership had reached 1,571, the business had grown to \$1,254,613, and thirty-one shipping stations had been established. Apples, asparagus, and some other fruits and vegetables are also sold, and fertilizer, bags, seed and supplies are purchased. Over 7,000 tons of fertilizer was handled in 1915.

Produce is not pooled but is handled on a 5% basis, and the same percentage is added to the price of supplies purchased for members. The actual cost of carrying on business was reported in 1916 as about 2-1/2%.

The original capital stock of \$100,000, in shares of \$5 each, has been increased to \$300,000. The following table shows the dividends paid on capital stock for a term of years:

Year ending Nov. 30	Capital Stock Outstanding	Rate of Dividends Declared	Amount of Dividends	Date Payable
		(%)		
1912	\$ 75,195	5	\$ 3,746.00	
1913	75,450	5	4,513.00	
1914	75,450	7	5,281.50	
1915	75,450	8	6,036.00	
1916*	75,450	9	6,790.50	Jan. 2, 1917
1917#	151,590	5	9,095.40	Apr. 1, 1918
1918	151,770	7	10,623.90	Apr. 1, 1919
1919	151,950	7	10,636.50	Apr. 1, 1920
1920	159,955	8	12,166.00	Apr. 1, 1921
1921	175,920	8	14,073.60	Apr. 1, 1922
1922	175,975	8	14,078.00	Apr. 1, 1923

\*Stock dividend of 100% declared, payable Feb. 15, 1917.

#A patronage dividend of 2 cents a barrel was set aside for farmers for potatoes delivered from Nov. 29, 1916, to Nov. 30, 1917, amounting to \$13,117.63, payable May 1, 1918. A profit-sharing dividend to salaried employees was declared, payable May 1, 1918, amounting to \$2,830.03.



ARKANSAS COTTON GROWERS HOLD FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

The first annual meeting of members of the Arkansas Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association was held in the office at Little Rock, June 20. Few changes were made in the board of directors and all officers were reelected.

Receipts of cotton from the 1922 crop amounted to 62,398 bales, and from prior crops, 5,631 bales, making the total number 68,029. This cotton was delivered by 4,127 members, making an average of 15 bales per man. Of all the cotton handled by the association, 62.4% was from 7/8 inch to 1-1/8 inches in length, and the average weight per bale was 507 pounds. On June 20, 57,538 bales had been sold, leaving on hand 10,991 bales.

Because of the many staples produced in the State, it was necessary to make provision for 1,638 possible pools as to grade, staple, and color. However, the cotton handled was divided into only 384 of these pools.

The total average expenses of the association were \$5.34 per bale, including \$1.11 for office expense, and \$1.59 for storage, freight and handling, while interest and insurance averaged \$2.64 per bale.

The final distribution has been made to growers of short staple cotton, but there will be one more payment to producers of "full 1-1/8" staple and longer.

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ASSOCIATION CARRIES ON EDUCATIONAL WORK

On June 7, 1923, at the end of its second year of operation, the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association, St. Paul, Minn., had a membership of 421 creameries, was handling over 5,500,000 pounds of butter a month, and carrying on a business of nearly \$100,000 a month in its creamery-equipment and supply department.

This association is persistently emphasizing to patrons the fact that good prices depend upon good quality of butter, and that the association can pay a higher price if each patron delivers only pure sweet cream. Instructions are issued to patrons regarding cleanliness in milking, thorough washing and scalding of utensils, and immediate cooling of the cream after separation.

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PATRONS RECEIVE NEARLY EIGHTY-SEVEN PER CENT OF BUTTER SALES

Butter, cream, milk and buttermilk sold by the Rush City Cooperative Creamery Co., Rush City, Minn., during 1922, brought in the sum of \$226,600, of which patrons received \$197,071, or 86.98%. The total amount of butter fat received was 459,004, for which an average price of 42.90¢ was paid. Egg sales amounted to \$5,772.



ASSOCIATION ADVERTISES LIMA BEANS

The seventh annual report of the manager of the California Lima Bean Growers' Association, Oxnard, Calif., states that the tonnage of the 1922 crop handled by the association was the largest of the past six years, amounting to 1,150,000 bags, of 100 pounds each, of the regular limas, and 155,000 bags of baby limas. This was about 45% of the total crop of regular limas and about 60% of the baby limas. Average prices received were \$7.35 per cwt. for the larger beans and \$7.65 for the baby limas. The total handling charges of the association amounted to about 39 cents per cwt., or less than 4% of the f. o. b. returns for total marketing costs, and about 3/4 of 1% for general administration expenses.

During 1922 the association spent about 3-1/2 cents per cwt. for advertising purposes, as compared with 3 cents in 1921. The advertising was largely of an educational nature in several women's magazines and grocery trade papers.

The policy of making larger payments to members about 30 days after delivery at the warehouses, was carried out, and 3 cents a pound was paid by November 15, with an additional 1 cent a pound at 5% interest to those who requested it. Another payment a month later and a third in June brought the total up to 7 cents a pound, leaving about a quarter cent still to be distributed.

Orders have been booked for a portion of the 1923 crop at about \$7.30 for choice, recleaned baby limas, and \$6.90 for choice, recleaned regular limas, these prices being from 1-1/2 cents to 1 cent a pound higher than at the beginning of the 1922 season.

Considerable savings for members were effected by the purchase of bags and twine for growers at wholesale prices.

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NORTH DAKOTA WHEAT GROWERS PLANNING TO ORGANIZE LOCAL COUNCILS

The annual election of directors of the North Dakota Wheat Growers' Association, Grand Forks, N. D., was held on July 10. Nine of the twenty directors were reelected, nine others were not candidates for reelection owing to a re-districting of a portion of the State for a more equitable representation.

Efforts are to be made in the near future to organize the membership into local associations for mutual acquaintance, education and community development, also as an aid in the field-service work. George F. Duis, president of the association, in discussing the new policy recently, said: "The very soul of the association is its members, and in order to foster the cooperative spirit among them, it is essential that they should cooperate among themselves in their community affairs."

EXPERT SERVICE TO BE FURNISHED COOPERATIVELY

The latest creation in the nature of cooperative machinery for the marketing of dairy products is the New England Dairy Marketing Service. This service was organized June 13 by representatives of four New England milk producers' associations, namely, the Worcester County Dairy System, The Springfield Dairy System, the Manchester Dairy System, and the New England Milk Producers' Association.

The object of the new organization is to furnish expert supervision to the various producers' milk-marketing and distributing associations in New England. At first the service will be used only by the milk-distributing systems operating at Worcester, Springfield and Manchester, but will be made available to other producers' organizations as rapidly as such other organizations decide to join with the associations initiating the service.

It is proposed to furnish expert supervision in the operation of milk plants. Two managers are to be employed at first, one an expert regarding the physical handling of milk, the other an expert in the setting up and operating of accounting systems. The duties of the first will be to superintend construction and equipment of local plants, employ local managers, supervise the operation of local plants, and supervise the sale of fluid milk. The second expert will devise a suitable accounting system, supervise the installation of the same, suggest credit policies, advise with the treasurers of the local associations, assist in the purchase of supplies, and superintend the sale of manufactured products. The two experts jointly will determine the products to be manufactured. As additional associations join the newly formed corporation and the demand for the service which it is preparing to render increases, the operating and accounting managers will build up staffs of assistants. It is believed that with high-class technical experts supervising the local plants as a group that a much higher standard of efficiency will be obtained with the normal amount of overhead expense.

While the several associations propose to pool, coordinate and standardize their managerial talent and, so far as possible, their operating methods and business policies, each association will maintain its own identity, its own physical plant, and its own group of producers, who will continue to prosper to the degree that they produce and market efficiently.

The officers of the New England Dairy Marketing Service are: President, C. A. Tuttle, Hardwick, Mass., president of the Springfield Dairy System; Vice-president, Fred T. Conner, Henniker, N. H., president of the Manchester Dairy System; Clerk, George M. Putnam, Contoocook, N. H., president of the Concord, (N. H.) Dairy Company; and Treasurer, C. E. Wallace, Sutton, Mass., president of the Worcester County Dairy System.

MILK SALES IN EXCESS OF EIGHTY-TWO MILLIONS

Sales amounting to over \$82,700,000 were made by the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, Inc., Utica, N. Y., during its business year closing March 31, 1923. The more important items making up the total were:

Fluid milk sold to dealers . . . . .	\$59,702,495.81	
Sales from plants operated by association:		
Fluid and skim milk . . . . .	\$8,359,362.30	
Cream . . . . .	2,447,934.87	
Condensed, evaporated, etc. . . . .	6,178,439.13	
Butter . . . . .	2,098,301.59	
Cheese . . . . .	2,584,258.27	
Ice cream . . . . .	672,285.59	
Buttermilk, casein, etc. . . . .	87,324.61	22,428,406.36
Total . . . . .		82,130,902.17

A total of 3,735,998.307 pounds of milk was handled during the year in the plants operated by dealers reporting and in the plants owned by the association. Of the total amount 35.8% was utilized as Class 1 milk; 25% as Class 2; 22.5% as Class 3; 9.6% as Class 4, butter; and 7.1% as Class 4, cheese.

The Dairymen's League Association, Inc., has a membership in excess of 65,000, and of this number 44,000 are pooling their milk.

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NO DIRECTOR OF TOBACCO ASSOCIATION TO HOLD SALARIED POSITION

After this year no director of the Dark Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association, Hopkinsville, Ky., may hold any salaried position in the association, according to a resolution adopted on July 10 by the board of directors of that association. The board of directors will be a supervising body which will select the officers and employees and in a broad way determine and direct policies of the organization and supervise the management, while the officers and employees will be charged with the responsibility of carrying on the actual work and of solving problems which arise from day to day.

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GEORGIA COTTON GROWERS RECEIVE ONE MILLION DOLLARS

A fourth payment to members was made early in June by the Georgia Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, Atlanta, Ga., on the basis of two cents per pound on all Middling White cotton, 7/8 to 1-inch staple. Approximately \$1,000,000 was distributed.



NEARLY HALF A MILLION RETURNED TO LIVE STOCK SHIPPERS

Twenty cooperative live-stock selling agencies are operating in 16 terminal live-stock markets in the United States. These markets are: Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, East St. Louis, Ft. Worth, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Peoria, St. Joseph, St. Paul, Sioux City, and Sioux Falls. There are two of these agencies in each of four markets, namely, Chicago, Kansas City, St. Paul, and East St. Louis.

Ten of these agencies have been established under the leadership of the National Live Stock Producers' Association, and eight are the result of the activities of the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union of America. Three of the agencies were established in 1917, one in 1918, two in 1919, one in 1921, ten in 1922, and three in 1923, up to July 30.

Nine of the organizations from which information has been received regarding the business transacted during their last fiscal year, distributed over \$400,000 as patronage dividends among live stock shippers.

Below are given the 16 markets, the name of the cooperative agency, the date it began operating, the date for the close of the last fiscal year, the number of cars of live stock handled, the per cent of patronage dividends declared, and the amount returned to shippers:

Associations	: Began : Operating	: End of : Last : Fiscal : Year	: Number : of Cars : Handled : Last Year	: Patronage : Dividends : Per : Cent	: Amount
<u>Buffalo, N. Y.</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Producers' Cooperative	:	:	:	:	:
Commission Assn., Inc.	: Nov. 1/22	:	:	:	:
<u>Chicago, Ill.</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Farmers' Union Live Stock	:	:	:	:	:
Commission	: May 6/22	:	:	:	:
Chicago Producers' Com-	:	:	:	:	:
mission Association	: June 19/22	: June 30/23	11,742	30	\$65,000 *
<u>Cleveland, Ohio</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Producers' Cooperative	:	:	:	:	:
Commission Association	: May 15/22	:	:	:	:
<u>Denver, Colo.</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Farmers' Union Live Stock	: 1919	:	:	:	:
Commission, Inc.	:	:	1,160	:	:
<u>Detroit, Mich.</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Michigan Live Stock	:	:	:	:	:
Exchange	: June 1922	:	4,129	40	7,000



Associations,-- Continued	: Began : Operating	: End of : Last : Fiscal : Year	: Number : of Cars : Handled : Last Year	: Patronage : Dividends : Per : Amount : Cent:
<u>East St. Louis, Ill.</u>	:	:	:	:
Farmers' Live Stock Com-	:	:	:	:
mission Company	:Nov. 1921	:	:	:
Producers' Live Stock	:	:	:	:
Commission Assn.	:Jan. 2/22	:Dec.30/22:	6,650	: 30 : \$ 40,407
<u>Fort Worth, Tex.</u>	:	:	:	:
Cattle Raisers and Produc-	:	:	:	:
ers Commission Company	:Nov. 1/22	:	:	:
<u>Indianapolis, Ind.</u>	:	:	:	:
Producers' Commission	:	:	:	:
Association	:May 15/22	:Apr.30/23:	9,053	: 30 : 42,000
<u>Kansas City, Mo.</u>	:	:	:	:
Farmers' Union Live Stock	:	:	:	:
Commission	:July, 1919:	:	4,359	: 19 :
Producers' Commission	:	:	:	:
Association	:Mar. 5/23	:	:	:
<u>Oklahoma City, Okla.</u>	:	:	:	:
Producers' Commission	:	:	:	:
Association	:July 2/23	:	:	:
<u>Omaha, Nebr.</u>	:	:	:	:
Farmers' Union Live Stock	:	:	:	:
Commission	:Apr. 1/17	:Dec.31/22:	7,634	: 67.3 : 85,378
<u>Peoria, Ill.</u>	:	:	:	:
Peoria Producers' Commis-	:	:	:	:
sion Association	:Jun.28/22	:May 31/23:	1,434	: 20 : 5,739
<u>St. Joseph, Mo.</u>	:	:	:	:
Farmers' Union Live Stock	:	:	:	:
Commission	:Aug. 1/17	:Dec.31/22:	8,240	: 60 : 86,610
<u>St. Paul, Minn.</u>	:	:	:	:
Central Cooperative Com-	:	:	:	:
mission Association	:Aug. 8/17	:Dec.31/22:	15,571	: 32 : 78,322
Farmers' Union Live Stock	:	:	:	:
Commission	:May 15/22	:	:	:
<u>Sioux City, Iowa</u>	:	:	:	:
Farmers' Union Live Stock	:	:	:	:
Commission	:Aug. 1/18	:Dec.31/22:	3,885	: 44 : 29,339
<u>Sioux Falls, S. Dak.</u>	:	:	:	:
Producers' Commission	:	:	:	:
Association	:May 3/23	:	:	:

\*Estimated

ALABAMA HAS FORTY-NINE COOPERATIVES

Reports received by the U. S. Department of Agriculture from cooperative organizations in Alabama, show that 49 such associations were operating in that State in 1921. Twenty of these associations reported that they were incorporated, 13 that they had capital stock, 41 that they did business for producers only, and 24 that they paid patronage dividends. The amount of business done by 35 associations which replied to the question on this subject, was \$1,887,000, an average of \$53,914. Of the 35 associations, 9 were vegetable associations, 6 handled live stock, 6 were general selling associations, 5 were fruit associations, three cotton, one dairy, one general buying, and one seed association. A total of 36 associations reported that they did cooperative buying, the chief items purchased being fertilizers, seeds, containers, feeds, and spraying materials.

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NEARLY FOUR THOUSAND RICE GROWERS SELL COOPERATIVELY

There were nearly four thousand members in the four organizations set up by the rice producers of the United States to market their annual rice crop. Two of the four associations are in Louisiana, one in Arkansas, and one in California. The associations and the membership reported by each for June 1, 1923, are as follows:

American Rice Growers' Association, Louisiana	1,366 Members
Arkansas Rice Growers' Cooperative Association	1,031 "
Louisiana Farm Bureau Rice Growers' Coop. Assn.	823 "
Rice Growers' Association of California	593 "

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ARKANSAS SWEET POTATOES SOLD IN FORTY MARKETS

One hundred six cars of sweet potatoes were marketed for 900 producers by the Arkansas Sweet Potato Growers' Exchange during the year ending July 1, 1923. These potatoes were shipped to 40 markets and the sales amounted to \$49,645. A total of \$38,865, which was 78.3% of the sales, was distributed to the local shipping associations and individual growers. The preceding season 118 carlots were sold for \$45,521.

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RECEIVING STATIONS FOR TOBACCO OPENED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Receiving stations for tobacco were opened on the 17th of July by the South Carolina Tobacco Growers' Association. The crop in that State is good and the association is paying a higher per cent advance on tobacco delivered than it did last year.